NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY, MT. GREYLOCK CCC TOUR

LANESBOROUGH- Celebrate the legacy of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) during the 13th annual National Public Lands Day on Saturday, September 16 with a guided tour of CCC sites on Mount Greylock State Reservation, including dinner and program at Bascom Lodge on the summit. The program, tour and dinner is scheduled between 1:00pm-8:30pm. The public is welcome to attend the any portion of the program, however, reservations are required by Tuesday, September 12 for the bus transportation and dinner; space is limited. Fee for dinner at Bascom Lodge is \$18 per person.

The program beginning at 1:00pm includes: exhibits, refreshments, interview with CCC alumni, a visit by Smokey Bear, bus tour to CCC sites in the park, and concludes with dinner at Bascom Lodge on the summit, tour of summit CCC structures and a special screening of the documentary "Purple Mountain Majesty" the history of the Thunderbolt Ski Trail, cut by the CCC in 1934. The program concludes at 8:00pm.

From 1933 to 1942 President Franklin D. Roosevelt recruited a civilian army to conserve our nation's natural resources. The Civilian Conservation Corps would engender strong national pride in America's rich legacy of land stewardship and would prove to be of moral and spiritual value to our great nation. Known as "Roosevelt's Tree Army" more than two million Americans - mostly men - planted over three billion trees and spent countless hours fighting forest and coal fires. They also surveyed and mapped lands and lakes, wired whole towns, and built fences, lodges, museums, hiking trails, roads, bridges, lookout towers, wells and pump houses.

The conservation promise long held in the able hands and trusted hearts of the CCC Alumni organization was passed on to younger generations in 2001, to continue their legacy on National Public Lands Day. National Public Lands Day events around the country celebrate the work of the CCC with alumni joining volunteers of all ages for this annual day to benefit our public lands and keepers of their legacy.

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands American's enjoy. Volunteers build trails and bridges, planted trees and plants, and removed trash and invasive plants or increase awareness of our natural resources. One out of every three acres of America's land - 600 million acres - is public land: to hike, bike, climb, swim, explore or just plain relax. When you get your hands dirty on National Public Lands Day you help spruce up your beautiful lands.

Reasonable accommodations are available upon request. Program is sponsored by the Department of Recreation and Conservation. National Public Lands Day is a program of the non-profit National Environmental Education and Training Foundation. For more information or to make reservations for the tour and dinner call (413) 499-4262, or visit www.mass.gov/dcr or www.publiclandsday.org.